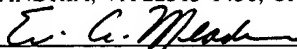




Patent

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE WITH SUFFICIENT POSTAGE AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON MAY 26, 2004



Eric A. Meade
Registration No. 42,876

Attorney Docket No. BM45323

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ruelle, Jean-Louis

Group Art Unit: 1645

Serial No.: 09/701,271

Examiner: Baskar, Padmavathi

Filed: March 11, 2002

For: Neisseria Meningitidis Antigenic Polypeptides, Corresponding Polynucleotides and Protective Antibodies

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR. § 1.111

Introductory Remarks:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed January 26, 2004 (Paper No. 20040119, herein referred to as "Office Action"). Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the application in view thereof.

It is believed that this Amendment is timely filed on or before May 26, 2004 with a petition for a one (1) month extension of time. Notwithstanding, should this Paper not be considered timely filed, Applicant hereby requests a retroactive extension of time to file for the number of months required to maintain pendency of the Application.